

**CITY OF KANKAKEE
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
SUMMARY OF MINUTES
MONDAY, JULY 6TH, 2020
7:00 P.M.**

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: I will call the meeting to order. Welcome back in person. If you look at the top of the agenda, I have asked the City Clerk's office to note that meetings are accessible to the public through Channel 4, our YouTube page and the City of Kankakee Website. Moving forward, all of the meetings will be held in the Chambers so that we can provide public access through Box Cast, and Channel 4 Comcast. We will move on to prayer by Pastor Tommy L. Wright from New Jackson Tabernacle COGIC and move on to the Pledge of Allegiance led by the City Council.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Moving on to public comments, item number four on the agenda. Please give your name and direct your comments to the Mayor comments are limited to five minutes,

LANCE MARCZAK:

I would like to start off by saying our freedom and our rights are being tested right now on many levels. Until we see each other as fellow Americans, nothing will change. It's up to each and every one of us, and make choices, good choices every day. Our choices will change the world. We can change things right here in our own city. Right now, we're living in times that none of us have ever experienced. We stopped the world from turning this year. But we also have an opportunity to change it. When we change that, when we see each other as Americans, not as black & as white, not as political, not as left or right. As stated before, I don't look at any of you as left or right, I look at you as leaders. People vote and complain, but will not get involved. I've known a lot of people that have forgotten what community is but I know one thing for sure we still have people that care about Kankakee. I am one. As the Mayor of Kankakee you should welcome the input from any member of the public, a business owner or otherwise that is invested in our town. As a Mayor, you should embrace those who challenge you. I'm disappointed in your actions in the Zoom meetings. How hard would it have been to do the right thing? I would like to know, at what

point does a politician forget what they actually do, and they work for the people? Over a year ago, I gave a speech great leaders are great listeners, with the hope that you would actually listen. It was actually for you Mayor. But I guess you didn't listen. You would rather remove me from the Zoom meeting and have me stand and observe. On the other hand, when you call the Zoom meeting, I was happy to attend it. I think it was a productive meeting. It's not that hard. Alderman Tall and Alderman Curtis had no problem conducting Zoom meetings that not only allowed public comment, but they posted the agenda for everybody to see. and also attend. I don't think you've figured it out yet Mayor, but it's your actions that have created the reason I'm standing here right now. Especially, toss people away with a push of a button. You also toss away the opportunity to get to know that person. The day you start embracing people that may disagree with you is the day we will start solving problems as a community. I have a vested interest in our city and I'm somebody that actually cares what goes on in our city. You along with Elizabeth decided to push that button and remove me for those meetings. It's not as easy tonight. Why would you remove somebody who's never been disrespectful to you, or disrupted any city meeting? It's not like we have an overwhelming number of people that care. You offered public comment by email, and you would read it. The only time I want you to be my voice is when I can't speak. Those are the times you should be a leader, those are the times you should be the voice of the people, but not when you are in fact the person that is restricting my voice. I would not be standing here tonight if you did not push that button. Once again, how hard is it to do the right thing? How hard is it that Kankakee County, allow a way to phone in and public comments. The day you try and silence the public is the day we start losing our rights that people fought and died for in this country. Honesty and integrity should be the priority of each and every one of you. It's time we all start working together as a community, whether we agree on things or not. Maybe it's time to start hiring local firms instead of out of town firms. In 2018, we paid \$125,000.00 for lawyer fees in 2019 at \$417,000.00 for that same legal firm. I'll tell you what, when I had a problem with the city before I would walk in Pat's office, and we'd sit down we chat about it. We didn't always agree, but I could do that because they were local, they cared and they were part of the community. They weren't out of town. Some of you know

I filed some things with the Attorney General and I passed out some sheets here. The question you must always ask is, Leaders are we doing the right thing; when somebody files. But I guess not. When somebody files with the Attorney General, the public body is required to respond to the allegations and provide copies of notices and agendas and documentation as required by the Open Meeting Act within seven days. The city received the main information on April 28th and it took until May 27th almost a month to respond. Because of that (*inaudible*). Even though, the city lied to the Attorney General, and I quote the City Council meetings, along with other committee meetings posting the agenda prior to the meetings, indicating how the public can be followed as total B.S. none, none, other than how you changed the policy for public comment. And so, the Attorney General's Office filed that the city was in violation of the Open Meeting Act and failed to identify any of the (*inaudible*) available. Okay.

JIMMY LACOST:

I own the property at 293 South Schuyler Avenue, and I've owned it for nearly 50 years, along with, 18 other buildings many of which I still own and rent in this community. I was shocked to learn of tonight's meeting. As number one, I received no notice. Number two, my understanding of the city ordinances always been that the liquor license was to stay with the premises. When my existing tenant notified me that they were not renewing the lease, my property and moving up the street my daughter decided she wanted to operate a similar liquor establishment in my building with a new image and improvements to the premises. My daughter incorporated a business entity and entered into a lease with me on the same terms as a previous tenant. In reliance on the city ordinance, I spent over \$40,000 on my building in the last 30 days improving the building and equipment, I worked with Peggy Meyer to upgrade the exterior facade. I black topped the alley behind the building, my daughter arranged purchases and got (*inaudible*) insurance of a total of \$4,600. My daughter has caused her application to be filed with the city, which has accepted, she was only told that she had to change the name of her intended operating business. To amend this ordinance midstream for a tenant of a continuing owner is to deny the application contrary to the existing ordinance of the city of Kankakee, which has been in effect for decades, and will result in empty boarded up building on Schuyler Avenue. This will not only occur on Schuyler, but elsewhere since owners of properties

leased and operated from liquor establishments will find no comfort in preserving their properties and maintaining the exterior appearance that they cannot rely on continuing ability to operate their business. I am fine with adding additional liquor licenses on Schuyler Avenue, as it has become a lively center of activity, but my property is in the middle of it and my rights should be protected so this property can contribute to the success of downtown Kankakee. Thank you.

MIRANDA PETAK:

My dad just spoke, and I wanted to introduce myself. I have applied for a liquor license for 293 South Schuyler. I've been working diligently with your assistant Miss Williams. She's been super kind and helped me out. She told me if there was anything that I needed to do on my behalf, she would let me know so I could take care of it. Like my dad said, I formed a corporation, I got the insurance, I redid the insurance when she asked me to change the name of the business. I got my fingerprints done, I completed all the applications. I was upset to understand tonight that there's going to be a vote to possibly amend the ordinance, to have the liquor license remain at the building that would prohibit me from having a business, and I just hope that you would allow me the opportunity to bring some revenue to the city by leaving things. Thank you.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Moving on to Item 5A Roll Call of the City Council.

AMY MARQUEZ:

PRESENT: Tetter, Brown, Curtis, Cobbs, Lewis, Tall, Faford, Crawford, O'Brien, Gall, Malone Marshall, Prude
ABSENT: Swanson, Osenga
(12) Present (2) Absent

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Moving on Item 5B Department Heads.

AMY MARQUEZ:

PRESENT: Kosman, Schuldt, Kubal, McGrath, Schiel, Piggush Nelson, Schmitz, Bertrand, Hoffman, Ellexson, Brewer-Watson.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Moving on to Item 6A. Minutes from Monday, June 1st, 2020. May I have a motion to approve the minute.

ALD LEWIS:

So move.

ALD TETTER: Second

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Motioned by Alderwoman Lewis and Seconded by Alderman Tetter. Any edits or corrections? All in favor.

COUNCIL: Aye.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Opposed, same sign? Hearing none, the minutes are approved. Item 6B Minutes for June 15th, 2020 will be provided at a later date. Moving on to Item 7 Petitions, we have none. Moving on to Item 8A Communications.

COMMUNICATIONS

ITEM 8A: Pleasant Grove Missionary Baptist Church, Requesting permission to Host their Outreach Parade on Saturday, July 25th, 2020 from 12:00 P. M. until 3:30 P. M.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: May I have a motion to approve that request?

ALD TETTER: So move your honor.

ALD BROWN: Second.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Motioned by Alderman Tetter and Seconded by Alderman Brown. Any discussion. Hearing none, all in favor?

COUNCIL: Aye

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Opposed? Motion carries. Item 9A Standing Committee Reports.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

ITEM 9A: Building & Code – Alderwoman Malone Marshall
The meeting was held on Thursday June 18th, 2020.
Highlights include: The bills in the amount of \$4,597.47 were reviewed and approved for full Council. We discussed the Code Enforcement staffing. We're very short in staffing and we also lost one employee due to cuts and that was the end of our meeting, it was adjourned at 6:07 P.M.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Thank you Alderwoman Marshall. Moving on Item 10 Reports of Officers. May I have a motion to approve the bills?

REPORT OF OFFICERS

ALD FAFORD: I move we approve the report of officers, place the money in the proper accounts and pay the bills in the amount of \$481,763.20.

ALD LEWIS: Second.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Okay motion made by Alderman Faford and Seconded by Alderwoman Lewis. Any discussion? Hearing none, Roll call please.

AMY MARQUEZ: **AYES:** Tetter, Brown, Curtis, Cobbs, Lewis, Faford, O'Brien (*abstain on check #76562*), Gall, Malone Marshall, Prude
NAYS: Tall, Crawford
(10) Ayes (2) Nays

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Motion carries, Thank you. Item 11 Unfinished Business we have none. Moving on to Item 12 New Business.

NEW BUSINESS

MIKE MCGRATH: In reviewing the ordinance and some of the comments by the public. I would just note that this process that the city apparently is followed for, I don't know how long and it's dated. What you have here is the same business and same business owner, moving their business to another location within the city. They have a liquor license through the city. I can tell you, most of the municipalities that we represent, it would be covered by a letter to the Mayor, who's the local Liquor Commissioner, who would just move the location of the liquor license to the new location. Here, the ordinance reads that you're eliminating liquor license #39 at the address 293 South Schuyler Avenue and then you're adding the same liquor license number at a different address on Schuyler, but again it's the same business name, same owners. It's just a step that doesn't have to be taken. The only thing that is changing is obviously the address of the establishment of the business. This happens all the time for various reasons, businesses want to downsize or they need additional parking, they want to go to a bigger location. Whatever the reason is, but this can be handled, quite simply by a letter from the business owner to the local

Liquor Commissioner who is the Mayor of the Municipality. So just make that note.

ITEM 12A:

Ordinance Amending Chapter 4, Section 4-13, of the Municipal Code of the City of Kankakee by Eliminating Liquor License Number 39 at the Location of 293 South Schuyler Avenue, Kankakee, Illinois and Adding Liquor License Number 39 at the Location of 259 South Schuyler Avenue, Kankakee, Illinois (*1st and 2nd Reading*).

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: May I have a motion to suspend the rules that will interfere with the passage of the ordinance?

ALD O'BRIEN: So move.

ALD TETTER: Second.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Motioned by Alderman O'Brien and Seconded by Alderman Tetter. Roll call please.

AMY MARQUEZ: **AYES:** Tetter, Brown, Curtis, Cobbs, Lewis, Tall, Faford, Crawford, O'Brien, Gall, Malone Marshall, Prude (12) Ayes (0) Nays

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Motion carries. May I have a motion to place the Ordinance on final passage?

ALD O'BRIEN: So move.

ALD TETTER: Second.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Motioned by Alderman O'Brien and Seconded by Alderman Tetter. Any discussion?

ALD O'BRIEN: I don't disagree with our city attorney's comments are based on the way the current ordinance is written, I think we propose that we amend this tonight's ordinance to keep the current license at 293 South Schuyler and then this ordinance just amend, add a new license at 259, South Schuyler based on our current code Section 4-54 says, no change to a liquor license shall be permitted except to a location, under state law and city ordinance that's already authorized as a license holder. So, we do not already have a liquor license at 259 South Schuyler. As I read this it would be illegal for us to make the change as presented. I think an amendment to the ordinance would be appropriate.

Keep the current license of 293 and in this ordinance to add a license at 259. That's an action that's consistent with our current ordinance. Then if we want to change it in the future as our city attorney recommended, I think that may be an option but for this action and I think this is really the only way forward.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Tonight, I think there's two separate issues and I'm going to recommend that any business owner that wants a liquor license contact my office to schedule a meeting with me. We have to do a background check and other information, our due diligence on the owner of whoever has the liquor license. This is my first-time seeing Mr. LaCost and Mrs. Petak that came in tonight and I believe I have a meeting set up with Mrs. Petak this week or next week to talk with her and meet with her. I don't think it's appropriate to do that. I know Alderman Curtis is Chairman of License and Franchise, he's had the liquor ordinance for several months. It did go back to the attorneys who provided some updates. I was hoping to have it on the agenda tonight and it's not on the agenda for tonight. So, our goal is to have it on the agenda for July 20, but as the Liquor Commissioner, I don't feel comfortable doing that. I have not had a conversation with the Mrs. Petal or Mr. LaCost and I certainly don't want to hold up, mister. I think this is Brent (inaudible) now who's trying to move or I don't want to hold him up from moving into the new location.

MIKE MCGRATH: Mayor if I would add, if it never would be allowed you would be, in essence, adding another liquor license which you don't currently have. Again, it's just my understanding is the business, who has the current liquor license just wants to move to another location. And, again, under your current liquor code that's completely alone, if they just approached the Mayor the Liquor Commissioner and say that we're moving to another location. Is it okay, if our liquor license that belongs to our business goes along with us? And it's up to the local Liquor Commissioner, he or she would have discretion to approve it or deny it, you certainly have to meet the parameters of not being within so many feet of a school or daycare center, there's reasons for denying it that may not move. But as far as the public comments, the woman who stated she filled out an application that happens all the time. Most people if they're going to purchase a building or enter into a lease and then open up an establishment, they usually do it, contingent

upon obtaining their own liquor license and transferring a liquor license to, which is also allowable by the local liquor Commissioner if that is the case, but as I understand it, the case here is the current proprietors moving up the street, and the liquor license belongs to the proprietor. And that's what's been proposed. And it's my understanding that this has been done in the past, by this type of an ordinance in my statement to the council and to the mayor's you really don't need to take the step with this ordinance.

ALD O'BRIEN

But I think based on the ordinance there has to be the site to which the licenses proposed to be moved must be an authorized license location in this case that's not the case.

MIKE MCGRATH:

Well the ordinance reads that you're eliminating the liquor license #39 at that address, and then you're adding that same liquor license #39 to the new address.

ALD O'BRIEN:

But prior to that it's not an existing. Currently right now it's not an existing.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: So currently exist is Licensed #39

ALD O'BRIEN:

Right but the 259 South -Schuyler does not have a liquor license. Currently.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: The liquor license is going with the owner.

ALD O'BRIEN:

Right but currently right now, 259, South Schuyler does not have a liquor license. So, I'm not opposed to moving it to 259 South Schuyler I just think, based on our ordinance. There's a better way to do this, as I read it.

ALD GALL:

So, you're saying that it's tied to the address not the person in our current ordinance like if we changed it. We could move forward but we kind of can't because it's tied to the address is that correct?

ALD O'BRIEN:

Not the business. Right. Yep.

ALD MALONE MARSHALL:

Okay, I'm just trying to understand this. So, the new liquor license you just want another number. You want to eliminate #39, and make the one for the new address 40? Is that what we're saying here?

ALD O'BRIEN:

No. Well, the way I read the Section for the 4-54 of the city code. It says a no change to a liquor license location, shall be permitted under the state law or city council or city ordinances. Unless the site to which is already proposed to be moved is only necessary as a liquor license establishment.

MIKE MCGRATH:

In essence that's what you are doing. The liquor license doesn't belong to the property. There's background checks to the owners of the business. That's who has ownership you know, possessory rights to the liquor license itself, and to transfer liquor license if there's somebody to buy the business. That could be allowed but it's up to the local Liquor Commissioner it doesn't have to happen. So that's why in all municipalities that somebody is going to buy Jim's corner bar or whatever the name of the businesses. They usually have a contract that is contingent upon the liquor license being transferred to them, which is subject to approval of the local Liquor Commissioner, or they go out and obtain and apply and get their own liquor license if for whatever reason, the liquor license isn't allowed to be transferred to them.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: We are creating the license. Alderman Curtis?

ALD CURTIS:

Do we currently have any open licenses right now?

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Just this one that we're creating tonight.

ALD CURTIS:

What about like the bowling alley in the west side, they applied for new ones and they've been closed for a year?

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: I don't think I've seen anything.

ALD CURTIS:

I'm just wondering, is there a way to satisfy both parties so that we understand...

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: I'm saying as the liquor Commissioner that I would like to speak to the applicant that's applying for the new business. I'm not comfortable issuing the license.

ALD CURTIS:

We are not issuing the second one, I'm just wondering, is there down the road that we anticipate, providing all the background checks and all that actually essential for an opening. Is there an open liquor license available?

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: I can't speak to that right now. Kris?

KRIS SCHMITZ: There is not a limit on liquor licenses that I'm aware of. There used to be but I don't think there is now.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Oh well, we have an ordinance that's been out for months, that is, Alderman Curtis, did you circulate the...

ALD CURTIS: I got the email this morning so that I could circulate it. Today it's out.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Okay. Alderman Tall?

ALD TALL: Currently the liquor license that is out. We have what Poppy's that's closed that had a liquor license we have Westside Bowling Alley. There were two establishments on Fifth Avenue that are closed. We had another establishment on Station Street that is closed. So, we have several outstanding licenses that are void right now under the new law. According to Mr. Odelson when he was here back several months ago. If an applicant applies, and meets all the requirements. We are obligated to establish a license for that person.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: That is left to the discretion of the Liquor Commissioner. Alderman Brown?

ALD BROWN: My comment is this. I think what you're doing is correct. Because I think (*inaudible*) not transferring license to the person that owns the license right now. He wants his license moved to another location. I think that's legal. Because you eliminate that same license that he holds, and then you put it in a location. If you don't do that, then the, the ordinance also read that basically he has to fill out a new application to do that, because there's no existing there so he still had to go through that whole process. So, with this being said I feel like you have to eliminate that same license at that location and then the people that want to apply for the license, they can always apply, and we can create a license, either we can find a vacant license, but we still have to do the same thing. We still have to go in declare that license, eliminate that license in any location you're talking about, whatever that license is and then transferred to the 259, where it should be now, so that's the process that's the way I see it.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Alderman Crawford?

ALD CRAWFORD: Are we going to be giving a liquor license to the current place right now?

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: I don't know I haven't met with them.

ALD CRAWFORD: Here you have a gentleman, just sunk tons of money in there and have had a license there for over 50 years from now you're risking him (*inaudible*).

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Alderman Crawford, people that want a license should be consulting with the Liquor Commissioner before they buy a business, sell a Business, they should be consulting with me because I'm the Liquor Commission. This is the first time that I've heard of some of the comments that have been made tonight, obviously you all have had a meeting and discussed this but I have not spoken with Mrs. Petak who wants to have a new license. I have a meeting with her scheduled. Alderman O'Brien?

ALD O'BRIEN: So, Mike back to my question. You're saying that based on the way our ordinance is written that by approving this ordinance that is the step necessary to say okay now 259 is an authorized site for a liquor license? Is that right?

MIKE MCGRATH: It's the facility or the business of No Dogs, I think is the name of the business. No Dogs is moving up the street, No Dogs is the owners, whoever they are, at some point they passed the background check and did their fingerprints and their liquor license was approved by whoever the Liquor Commissioner was at the time, and they're just moving. It's as simple as the liquor license is under their name, their business. It's not the address, it's their business it's just like a car dealership, a location that car dealership has, you know, a licensed operate is a car dealership. If they moved across the street.

ALD O'BRIEN: I understand that, but our license, our Ordinance Section 4-54 specifically says, there shall be no change in location for liquor license, but for.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: We're creating the location.

ALD O'BRIEN: That's what I'm asking. Is that your position that we're complying with the ordinance in that we are stating that 259 effective tonight would, if approved, this

would create an ordinance, a liquor license at that location.

MIKE MCGRATH:

That's what the ordinance is doing. It's recreating liquor license #39 to No Dogs at a new address. Which in my review of it, I don't even think it's necessary, they could just go directly to the local Liquor Commissioner and say, we're moving to a new location, is that okay? Can we move to that location? A prudent business person would go to the Liquor Commissioner before signing the lease or putting money into the property before getting that authority to move to a location because they might be within 75 feet of the school or had some other prohibition of being able to be at that location.

ALD O'BRIEN:

So, is this another section of the liquor ordinance that would potentially be revised based on what you see Mike?

MIKE MCGRATH:

Yeah, I'll take a little look at this I don't think this was part of any review or any issues that have come up so far so this might be another area where we can, you know, where we can enhance this ordinance.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Okay. So, we have a motion on the floor to... Well, I'm not approving and amend I'm not up as a Liquor Commissioner authorizing an amendment to someone I have not interviewed. What is your motion Alderman O'Brien?

ALD O'BRIEN:

To approve and during questions, I had questions.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Okay. So, the motion is to approve the ordinance as Written in Item A?

ALD O'BRIEN:

Correct.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Okay, motion made by Alderman O'Brien and Seconded by Alderman Tetter. Roll Call.

AMY MARQUEZ:

AYES: Tetter, Brown, Curtis, Cobbs, Lewis, Tall, Faford, O'Brien, Gall, Malone Marshall, Prude

NAYS: Crawford
(11) Ayes (0) Nays

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Thank you motion carries. As I stated, anybody who is Have a business that involves liquor needs to contact my office and have a meeting with Mrs. Petak has already done

so, thank you. I look forward to speaking with you and hearing about your plans for the building. Moving on to Item 12B and 12C.

ITEM 12B: Ordinance Amending Chapter 32 Section 231 Entitled “Handicap Parking” of the Municipal Code of the City of Kankakee Handicap Parking Sign(s) Established at 905 South Elm (*1st and 2nd Reading*).

ITEM 12C: Ordinance Amending Chapter 32 Section 231 Entitled Handicap Parking to the Municipal Code of the City of Kankakee Rescinding Ordinance No. 2014-80 Establishing Handicapped Parking at 333 North West Avenue (*1st and 2nd Reading*).

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: If there's no objection, I would like to combine Items 12B and 12C. May I have a motion to suspend the rules that interfere with the passing of both ordinances?

ALD PRUDE: So move.

ALD COBBS: Second.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Motioned by Alderman Prude and Seconded by Alderman Cobbs. Roll Call please.

AMY MARQUEZ: **AYES:** Tetter, Brown, Curtis, Cobbs, Lewis, Tall, Faford, Crawford, O’Brien, Gall, Malone Marshall, Prude
(12) Ayes (0) Nays

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Motion carries. May I have a motion to place Items 12B and 12C on final passage?

ALD PRUDE: So move.

ALD COBBS: Second.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Motioned by Alderman Prude and Seconded by Alderman Cobbs. Any discussion on either of those items? Roll call please.

AMY MARQUEZ: **AYES:** Tetter, Brown, Curtis, Cobbs, Lewis, Tall, Faford, Crawford, O’Brien, Gall, Malone Marshall, Prude
(12) Ayes (0) Nays

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Motion carries. Moving on to Item 12D.

ITEM 12D: Ordinance Amending Chapter 3, Section 3.13 (Adult Use Cannabis) of the City of Kankakee Zoning Ordinance Approving a Zoning Text Amendment to Allow Co-Location of Adult Use Cannabis Craft Grower Centers and Transporting Organizations in the City of Kankakee, Illinois (*1st and 2nd Reading*).

MIKE HOFFMAN: So, this one is a fairly simple amendment to our zoning code which we actually just updated earlier this year to address adult use cannabis businesses. When that was drafted, the city attorney actually used a model code from the Illinois Municipal League. One of the provisions in that was that a crafter or a transporter couldn't be located in the same building, I can't quite figure out why that was but it wasn't there. We've had several applicants for craft grower licenses asked to have a transporter associated with them in fact they've been encouraged by the state to do that. They have both of them in the same location just facilitates their movement of goods and their operations allows for smooth operation of those types of facilities. So, we had a public hearing on that amendment in May with the Planning Board. They recommended approval and we met with the Ordinance Committee. In June, they were comfortable with those modifications. So, the modification is simply, to allow craft growers and transporters to be located in the same facility in the same location.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Thank you, Mike. May I have a motion to suspend the rules that will interfere with the passage of this ordinance?

ALD TETTER: So move your honor.

ALD COBBS: Second.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Motioned made by Alderman Tetter and Seconded by Alderman Cobbs. Roll call please.

AMY MARQUEZ: **AYES:** Tetter, Brown, Curtis, Cobbs, Lewis, Tall, Faford, Crawford, O'Brien, Gall, Malone Marshall, Prude
(12) Ayes (0) Nays

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Motion carries. May I have a motion to place the Ordinance on final passage?

ALD TETTER: So move your honor.

ALD COBBS: Second.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Motioned made by Alderman Tetter and Seconded by Alderman Cobbs. Any discussion? Hearing none. Roll call please.

AMY MARQUEZ: **AYES:** Tetter, Brown, Curtis, Cobbs, Lewis, Tall, Faford, Crawford, O'Brien, Gall, Malone Marshall, Prude
(12) Ayes (0) Nays

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Motion carries. Moving on to Item 12E.

ITEM 12E: Ordinance Amending Chapter 10 "Parking and Loading" of the City of Kankakee Zoning Ordinance.

MIKE HOFFMAN: This is a complete redo of the Chapter 10 of the Parking and Loading requirements in the zoning code of the city became key. It has not been updated since the 1990s, long overdue. So, we're updating our standards to be consistent with modern development practices and to really truly be more business friendly. What we're doing in most cases is reducing our parking requirements a little bit still making sure we have some minimum parking requirements. But what they allowed new businesses to do is potentially reduce their pavement, reduce their costs, and still meet their needs for parking. We also provide some additional flexibility here where you can have more shared parking between different businesses if they have different offsetting hours and those kind-of-things. We are encouraging the provision of bike parking for new businesses and new multifamily development. We are encouraging best management practices for stormwater management so when the water runs off a parking lots, hopefully it goes into a rain garden or bio swale or something like that. We're not requiring that but we are encouraging that. Likewise, the planning board felt strongly about encouraging landscaping within parking lots. Again, not required but encouraging those kind-of-things with new development. In terms of parking changes, as it says in most cases we reduced the requirements, some cases we call them the same and a couple of cases we actually increased them very slightly because of the type of use that's being proposed. So, for example, we've had several cases in the last year or so where we've had manufacturing industrial businesses come and ask for a

variance from our requirements because there are parking requirements for industrial uses and manufacturers is really, way above normal standards for those types of businesses. We will reduce those now down to a normal requirement so those businesses won't have to come to seek variances in the future. And we have just really updated the whole code to make it easier for businesses to work with the city and streamline the process so we did have a original public hearing on this in May before the Planning Board that got contained to June, and they made the recommendations in June. We also sent this to the Ordinance Committee and they were comfortable with these revisions as well.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Thank you Mike. May I have a motion to suspend the rules that will interfere with the passage of the ordinance?

ALD TALL: So move.

ALD CRAWFORD: Second.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Motioned by Alderman Tall and Seconded by Alderman Crawford. Roll Call please.

AMY MARQUEZ: **AYES:** Tetter, Brown, Curtis, Cobbs, Lewis, Tall, Faford, Crawford, O'Brien, Gall, Prude
NAYS: Malone Marshall
(11) Ayes (1) Nays

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Motion carries. May have a motion to place the ordinance on final passage?

ALD TALL: So move.

ALD CRAWFORD: Second.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Motioned by Alderman Tall and Seconded by Alderman Crawford. Any discussion? Roll Call please.

ALD TETTER: After reading this it came to our committee last month, I think it was, and the concern or question I have for clarification is that we are making it convenient for people to do business or live in the downtown area that's for the parking, correct? I would ask that this body, do the same thing, because I've been faced with a couple of constituents in our ward. So, if we're going to do this for downtown residents we should do this city wide. I think that it should

apply citywide in terms of the parking, because we have a situation right now where we have residential properties required to have four parking spaces for a duplex. That's two parking spots per unit. Here we are saying one vehicle per unit. Is that not correct? That's my interpretation of what we're discussing. Correct?

MIKE HOFFMAN:

Chapter 10 addresses the entire community but there is a provision in the new code that's being proposed tonight to reduce the parking requirement in the downtown area for commercial development we're suggesting that there be no parking requirement in the downtown area because there is quite a bit of additional and available municipal parking in the downtown area as well as on street parking. We are suggesting that for multifamily development in the downtown area. That would be a requirement of one parking space per unit elsewhere in the community, the requirement would be two parking spaces per unit for multifamily development. Reason being, less walkable farther out need additional car. In the multifamily category is where there's a difference in any kind of other residential category or whether it's R1, R2, the requirements have not been modified, so those are the same everywhere, but the multifamily there is a difference between downtown and other areas of the community.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: I think downtown because when we did the streetscape there were over 1000 parking parcels were asking me to do a parking. What's the correct term survey, study. We have over 1000 parking spaces in the downtown footprint. Parking lots that the city of Kankakee owns. That's why we thought it was prudent to reduce the requirement for development in downtown because there's already so much parking available downtown.

ALD MALONE MARSHALL: I just wanted to bring it to the attention of the council that and table 10-5B. It says that a single-family dwelling. Two parking spaces per unit, a two-family dwelling, to, per unit, a multifamily dwelling two per unit, which means we're not considerate of the residents of the city of Kankakee we're only considering the business, and I feel like we should give the people and residents is the same opportunity not to require extra parking.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Any other discussion? Alderman Curtis?

ALD CURTIS: the downtown figure 10-2 that's the downtown district based on zoning district based on that square outline. Is that correct?

MIKE HOFFMAN: Yes, that's correct.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Did you have another question? Okay. We had a motion from Alderman Tall and a second by Alderman Crawford. Any further discussion? Okay, Roll Call.

AMY MARQUEZ: **AYES:** Brown, Curtis, Cobbs, Tall, Faford, Crawford, O'Brien, Gall, Prude
NAYS: Tetter, Lewis, Malone Marshall
(9) Ayes (3) Nays

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Motion carries. This didn't go to ordinance committee, correct?

ALD TALL: Yes.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Okay.

ALD MALONE MARSHALL: And I did make the same notification. So, we're good.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Moving on to Item 12 F.

ITEM 12F: Ordinance Declaring Certain Property Surplus of the City of Kankakee. The Kankakee Fire Department and Authorizing the Sale Thereof (*1st and 2nd Reading*).

CHIEF SCHULDT: These are a couple vehicles that we've had in our fleet for a while, they're both former shift commander SUVs, and we are trying to go through our fleet this summer and eliminate some vehicles that we either don't use a whole lot, or they're not really worth putting a whole lot of money into. So, the 2001 Tahoe has been in reserve status for a while, and the 2009 Tahoe we just recently took out a service due to a major transmission issue. So, the plan is to put them on a web-based internet site and get rid of them and we just had some recent success with that so we're going to plan to do that again.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: May I have a motion to suspend the rules that will interfere with the passage of this ordinance?

ALD BROWN: Motion to suspend the rules.

ALD GALL: I'll second.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Motioned by Alderman Brown and Seconded by Alderwoman Gall. Roll Call please.

AMY MARQUEZ: **AYES:** Tetter, Brown, Curtis, Cobbs, Lewis, Tall, Faford, Crawford, O'Brien, Gall, Malone Marshall, Prude
(12) Ayes (0) Nays

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Motion carries. May I have a motion to place the ordinance on final passage?

ALD BROWN: Motion to suspend the rules.

ALD GALL: I'll second.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Motioned by Alderman Brown and Seconded by Alderwoman Gall. Any discussion on these items?
Alderman Crawford.

ALD CRAWFORD: When we sell something from a department like that, does that money go back into the general fund or does it go into their department?

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Elizabeth. Can you confirm?

ELIZABETH KUBAL: Alderman, historically that money just goes back into the general fund. Yes.

ALD CRAWFORD: Thank you.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Any other discussion? Roll Call please.

AMY MARQUEZ: **AYES:** Tetter, Brown, Curtis, Cobbs, Lewis, Tall, Faford, Crawford, O'Brien, Gall, Malone Marshall, Prude
(12) Ayes (0) Nays

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Motion carries. Elizabeth, I just want to confirm we usually purchase our vehicles out of capital so it still goes into the general fund and not back into capital.

ELIZABETH KUBAL: Yes.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Okay, just want to confirm. Thank you. Moving on to Item 12G.

ITEM 12G: Recommendation to Award the Bid in the Amount of \$546,408.00 to Kankakee Valley Construction Company for the 2020 Motor Fuel Tax Street Maintenance Program, and PEI Job No 20037.

NEIL PIGGUSH: We held a bid opening for the City Street Maintenance Program for this year, on June 9th. We had two bidders, Kankakee Valley Construction and Gallagher Asphalt. As with everything this year, we're still navigating what effect COVID is having on various industries. We are seeing an increase in cost due to that right now, as well as, the massive amount of work that has been coming out on the state letting so competing with multi-million-dollar state jobs as well. So, we're still recommending the award of the contract to Kankakee Valley Construction in the amount stated, and Item 13A further down on the agenda is the corresponding supplemental resolution that will have to be passed to do that.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: May I have a motion to approve the resolution?

ALD O'BRIEN: So move.

ALD MALONE MARSHALL: Second.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Motion made by Alderman O'Brian Seconded by Alderwoman Malone Marshall. Any discussion on that item?

ALD CRAWFORD: What was the total amount of motor fuel tax that we received this year?

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Do you have that Neal? Probably not.

NEAL PIGGUSH: What was the question? How much motor fuel tax we recieved this year?

ALD CRAWFORD: How much motor fuel tax we received this year?

NEIL PIGGUSH: We've been getting before pre COVID we were getting about \$100,000, a month. Obviously, that's kind of in flux right now, since it's due to the gas tax so we've kind of seen that fluctuate a little bit but we really don't have a good

idea of where it's going to land consistently going forward. So, but before COVID it was about \$100,000 a month, we've kind of seen that taper down to about \$8075 now.

ALD CRAWFORD: Thank you.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Alderman Curtis?

ALD CURTIS: Neal, do you have an anticipated time. Will this be July or the more like August, when Kankakee Valley will start this?

NEIL PIGGUSH: Assuming everything gets approved tonight, we'll get contracts going. It usually takes two to three weeks to get the contracts approved by IDOT so we're probably looking at about the second week of August to get started. We're hoping they're done about mid-September.

ALD CURTIS: Thank you.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Any other discussion? Okay, Roll Call.

AMY MARQUEZ: **AYES:** Tetter, Brown, Curtis, Cobbs, Lewis, Tall, Faford, Crawford, O'Brien, Malone Marshall, Prude
ABSTENTIONS: Gall
(11) Ayes (0) Nays (1) Abstention

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Motion carries. Moving to Item 12H Appointments.

ITEM 12H: Appointment
Cortney Bessant – Police & Fire Commission

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: I believe, last year, we increased our Police and Fire Commission from three to five appointments. Making the recommendation to appoint Cortney Bessant to the Police and Fire Commission. This will give us a full Police and Fire Commission. A good diverse reflection of the community. I enclosed her resume for your review. She works for an insurance company so she's got some background in HR and policies and procedures which would be helpful particularly, as we're looking at policies and procedures right now, with some of our policies in our police and fire. Cortney Are you here? Okay, so you could stand up if you want to. So still people like to invite people in so people know who's working in the city and volunteer

and on our behalf. So, if I can have a motion to approve.
Cortney for Police and Fire Commission?

ALD LEWIS: So move.

ALD TETTER: Second.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Motioned by Alderwoman Lewis and Seconded by
Alderman Tetter. Any discussion? Roll Call please.

AMY MARQUEZ: **AYES:** Tetter, Brown, Curtis, Cobbs, Lewis, Tall, Faford,
Crawford, O'Brien, Gall, Malone Marshall, Prude
(12) Ayes (0) Nays

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Motion carries. Cortney, thank you so much for stepping
up to serve. Welcome to the city! I know that you and
James have been in touch, we'll follow up with you so you
know about the next meeting. I think is next week and if
you have any questions don't hesitate to reach out to us.
Okay, let's welcome Cortney everybody. Moving on to
Item 13A Motions and Resolutions.

MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS

ITEM 13A: Supplemental Resolution for Maintenance Under the
Illinois Highway Code for the 2020 Motor Fuel Tax Street
Maintenance Program.

NEIL PIGGUSH: This is the required supplemental resolution in order to
approve the contract that was just voted on. So, this
resolutions in the amount of \$65,000.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: May I have a motion to approve?

ALD MALONE MARSHALL: So move.

ALD COBBS: Second.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Motion made by Alderwoman Malone Marshall and
Seconded by Alderman Cobbs. Any discussion on this
item? Roll Call please.

AMY MARQUEZ: **AYES:** Tetter, Brown, Curtis, Cobbs, Lewis, Tall, Faford,
Crawford, O'Brien, Malone Marshall, Prude
ABSTENTIONS: Gall
(11) Ayes (0) Nays (1) Abstention

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Motion carries. Item 14 Executive Session we have no need for an Executive Session, therefore we have no need for Item 15. Moving on Item 16 City Council member comments. Any comments?

ALDERMEN & ALDERWOMEN COMMENTS

ALD BROWN:

First of all, I won't tell you the public safety, we'll have a meeting in the chambers tomorrow afternoon at 5:30 P.M. The other thing is, I want to say that, you know, there's a lot of activity right now, everything that the police does is under a magnifying glass. I just want to tell you, be careful what you say and what we need to do as Chairman of public safety, we're going to be looking at policies and procedures, hiring practice. We're going to be looking at the disciplinary history. A lot of things that we never looked at before in the past, would have to be looked at. Now, because of what's happening nationwide. I just got a text message you want me to put 8 Can't Wait on the agenda but there's a lot of things going on. The things that really makes you mad is that there's a Councilman in Scottsdale Arizona by the name of (*inaudible*). I think his name, and he put on a fake mask like that making fun of the guy...I can't breathe in that kind of theory people, when you, when you. I don't know when you grandstand like that. You've heard a lot of departments you hurt a lot of people in a lot of police officer a lot of citizens, by grandstanding like that. We as elected officials cannot do that because everything we do right not, people is looking to have some kind of action, to take some kind of control and come out with some kind of results. Kankakee Polices will not be any different. They going to be looking at the staff and they're going to be looking at so many things, so be careful what you say, what you do, because your further along than you know. What you don't know is years ago, the City Council. Started CALEA with the police department. CALEA makes sure your policies are up to date. Some of the police department policy and procedure goes back to the 70s and 80s, and maybe the 90s, and your policy procedure today that's very important. Whether you know it or not. Your use of force policy has to be looked at and you know what, I got to tell you right now, whether you know it or not you, they just gave us an unfunded mandate. Because what do you want to or not, you don't have to come up with cameras

body cameras for police officers in the city of Kankakee whether they want it or not, and it's not only for the public protection is for the protection they're asked too, so he can justify the action that might happen. It has not happened in the City of Kankakee, but I want to make this clear to you guys. It could happen. It could happen and we want to take that precaution, and I don't know what the funds will come from and I don't know how to feel about it. But the fact of the matter is, right now the body cameras are going to have to be purchased in this city. Thank you.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Thank you Chairman. Alderman Crawford? Alderman Tall?

ALD TALL: There are a couple of questions but I will wait until after the next budget meeting.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: That is on the list for our wish list with your body cams is on the wish list just so you know. Alderwoman Malone Marshall.

ALD MALONE MARSHALL: Thank you Madam Mayor. I just wanted to thank you for making it possible for us to have our zoom meetings for all of our council and committee meetings, we were able to continue with our city business. I just wanted to thank you and all of the chairman for allowing us to continue with some, and also for the updates on COVID-19.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: You're welcome. Alderman O'Brien?

ALD O'BRIEN: Thank you. The first item is, a week from tonight we have our regular July budget meeting hopefully we will be getting close to finalizing the budget, I will have more information at the time. Secondly, in the last few months I've had a number of requests for stop signs in the 2nd Ward. So, I connected with the city engineer regarding that earlier tonight and we're in the process of getting all the data for that and my understanding is the plan is to evaluate them all at the same time as some of them are sort of on adjacent streets. It may not make sense to do both but certain requests may be granted and others may not. So that's kind of in the works. I also wanted to request that in the future, I received Mr. Marczak information about the Open Meetings Act violation correspondence. This is the first I've seen of that and it relates to the Budget Committee meeting from April. As the Chair of the Budget Committee

so I asked that in the future if there's any you know, those kind of correspondence regarding committee activity or committee meetings that the members of that committee be notified. The last one comment I have is, I heard that potentially the city would be charging the Park District for police overtime related to the fireworks. I thought that it would be appropriate that we, you know, in the spirit of cooperation throughout the community for community celebration. Not, do that. So, I want to share that. Thank you.

ALD CURTIS:

We will have a License & Franchise Committee at 5:30 P.M. on Thursday, and as mentioned earlier, the final draft of the Liquor Ordinance came across today with an email to share that with the committee so that one's going up to date everybody, so I got that email this afternoon.

ALD TETTER:

Yes, your honor. Just a quick note here. I want to thank The police department for the work that they've been doing over ever since we've had this COVID-19. I think they've been doing a good job we've not had any of the incidents that some of our other communities or cities or towns have had Thank God. I think that speaks to just the. I think that speaks to the spirit of cooperation between the citizens and also the police department and I certainly want to make certain that is on record. In regards to the fireworks there was a tremendous amount of fireworks and I certainly I'm not the only one who was fielding calls about fireworks and people being up and filling on safe and all of that. But there were no injuries that that I know, but there was quite a bit of fireworks. All throughout the city and it wasn't just the city, it's happening all over the country. So, public works. I wanted to take the time to thank them for getting all the tree branches and twigs and leaves and all that other stuff that's been drilled about in the streets over the last couple of weeks and they have done a tremendous and admirable job. And I just want to give a shout out to them. Lastly, it's this is in regards to the issue that took place our last meeting. And it was about public comments. And I've not been here that long, but I've been here long enough to know that we as aldermen we do not make public comments from our seats. We have something we want to say we sign a list and we come up and we speak. So, with that being said, I was a bit offended that we would take that time to politicize public comments that were made from an entity who we found out actually did not make those comments, and I just

asked us to, we come in here let's take care of the city's business. Let's do our job, get done, go home, enjoy ourselves. And let's just try and be a better counsel entire city is looking at how we conduct ourselves. And I want to work with everyone. And I would hope that that same sentiment is shared with all of the all of the council members here in this chamber. Thank you, Your Honor.

ALD COBBS:

Well, thank you, it is nice to see everybody in the police they do a great job I'll close enough to live by the fireworks and assisted as best I can with some of the parking did have some complaints for neighbors but I tried to explain with all the fireworks that was going on or it's very little weapons, or the police can do it can't be at all in the fireworks. I would like to add to the COVID-19 virus and the death of George Floyd has to reveal the inequalities, or socioeconomic health and education of black and brown communities, understanding a social problem of any condition behaviors that have a negative consequence for large numbers of people and that is generally recognized as conditional behavior that needs to be addressed. Ironically, as we were discussing the adult cannabis dispensary for Kankakee, and how to (*inaudible*) community they have been disproportionately affected by the war on drugs. It appeared the some did not understand what that mean meant hope the current affairs of our countries has given us all a better understanding. I realized that these terms may be in bold or fitting for today's present societal mood. Yet, we cannot deny that they exist, even in our own city. How do we bridge the gap for those who have been disappointed disproportionately affected, even in our own city? The least we can do with the current encourage our youth to achieve a higher education, not just in Word, but indeed and maybe come back to Kankakee and continue a positive impact on our community. Therefore, I would like to commend the Hispanic partnership for giving scholarships to Hispanic students. However, it hurts deep down in my soul that the President of Hispanic Partnership Natalie Ojeda, would submit a written statement complaint through public comment objecting Mayor Armstrong, giving scholarships to African American students. We stand in solidarity with the Latino community. Our community so reflect one another. We faced similar social economic health and education concerns. It is as if my sister was complaining about me helping my brother. I have been fortunate enough to walk practically every street in the city of Kankakee as a

letter carrier from Main Street to Sunnyside, to Fair to Cobb and what I've learned is what makes Kankakee so beautiful, is the collage of ethnicities throughout our city. Now it is not the time to divide but this time to unite, not only as a people but as a community of all races. I am naive enough to believe that we share the same goal of what's in the best interest of our city. We may also have different objective to reaching those goals. But we must, we must be unified on continuing to encourage the youth of our city. They are not only our future. They are also present as evidence that many marches were led by the youth of the city, and there were plenty. Leaders need to talk to each other, not each at each other, have a private conversation. Get it or get it over with and leave it there. I believe that we believe that when the leaders fight the people suffer. When the leaders fight, the kids suffer. Let's do like we do let's go in the room that let the kids hear us. Get it on, get it over with. Because we want to present ourselves as positives images, not only to our community, but also to our youth. If we cannot do it for the youth, then what? If not now, then when? That's all I have.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Moving on to Item 17 Department Heads.

DEPARTMENT HEADS

ELIZABETH KUBAL:

Thank you, Alderman O'Brien for talking about the budget committee we will be looking at that next Monday night on the 13th. The final draft will be there for consideration. And we will also be having a presentation to talk about bond refinancing, and the plan thereof and we spoke about that at our special budget meeting on the 29th. And I wanted to speak briefly about vehicle stickers are we started that process today as many of you know we punted that process, due to the COVID situation and trying to get into the right timeframe with a moving target for sure. We started selling them today the old drive up on the corner of Schuyler and station. We are very thankful for the partnership that has been created between Midland State Bank and the city, they are providing an alternate location for the city sticker sales during this time of COVID. And in this location we are able to keep both the residents and the city staff safe, and I am very thankful as well for the entire city that I think it has taken to get us moved to this alternate location from the Tech team to DPW, the Mayor's office Communications, Police and Adjudication and I've

probably left somebody off the list so multiple team members from those departments have had to assist us and to make this a successful adventure. I do request your patience, we were having some transitional challenges today, you know, losing power was just one of those. But things happen and we will overcome, and overall though. I can't say enough about how smoothly it went when we did not have those challenges. We are open Monday through Friday 8:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. starting today through July for \$35. Those middle weeks tend to be not as busy if you have people who don't want to wait, I would come in those middle weeks that's typically how it goes. And if you have any questions please contact me or anybody Adjudications taking a lot of our phone calls actually at this time while we're transitioning. Thank you.

BARBIE BREWER-WATSON:

Thank you Mayor, I just want to remind everybody census. It's still happening it's still going on and we still need to count people. So right now, the city is at 55.5% city wide, but we do have some wards some census tracts that are at 30%. So, I need your help. I need you to remind your constituents, your neighbors to be counted, and they can go to census2020.gov, they can do it online, if they need the phone number they can call ECDA will give them the phone number and they can also do it by mail. Tonight .before you leave, we have yard signs. Help us tell people to get counted. We have water bottles that you can take to help pass out remind people to be counted, and anything else you need, you should have some materials in front of you answer some questions, but I'm going to come up every city council night and give you the update of where we're at. But we need to be closer to 100% here so I'm so many things that we do all the work that you guys do that we do depends on this, so please help me rally the troops rally the citizens, get counted census2020.gov. Thank you.

NEL PIGGUSH:

Thank you Mayor. We have just a few projects going on in the city right now. The Safe Routes to School project that opening is on IDOT (*inaudible*) for July 31st. Hobbie Avenue is moving forward we finalize the horizontal alignment. And we are now working with the ICC and beginning coordination with the railroads. Brookmont Boulevard, they are finalizing the horizontal layout on that (*inaudible*) is, we got a high-level estimate recently, the phase one estimate done in 2010 was roughly \$16.6 million for this project. We are currently at 33.9 5 million, half of

this is due to inflation. The other half is due to underestimation of costs and not accounting for any drainage work as part of the phase one study other half, or other portions that were underestimated were (*inaudible*). The storm water lift station, as well as mobilization we're not counted accounted for. So, we're still moving forward with that with V3 and trying to finalize the rail plans with CN Railroad, we are, we have filed for another extension request till the end of next year in order to allow time for additional right away acquisition, so that project is still moving forward. V3 is also working on the ITEP grant for Riverfront trail phase three a. They have submitted the environmental survey request, we are doing hydro, they are doing hydraulic analysis right now, as well as doing a horizontal alignment. East Ridge drive road improvements we are currently working with Ricky rockets engineer and doing a lot of intense coordination on their proposed improvements for their site and synching it with the proposed road improvements for East Ridge Drive. We've gotten a lot of increase from the businesses up there on the north side of the road as to what the proposed improvements will look like when we tie in to East Ridge Parkway. So that is moving forward we are anticipating starting construction on that sometime in September, hopefully. The East Court signage project is also moving forward we hope to have plans completed in the next couple of weeks in submitted to IDOT and then a bidding schedule for that will be announced. The South Schuyler bike lane project is also about complete and ready to be submitted to IDOT, and we will have a bidding schedule on that forthcoming Francine Drive improvements we will be starting the survey work next week. CN Railroad viaduct work on West River Street, hopefully will be complete this week there have all the rebar up on the face of the bridge on the viaduct in our shot creating it. It looks really good. I'm hoping that this will be a semi-permanent fix for many years to come. And then, Fast Track grant we are still waiting to hear back on that for the North Schuyler streetscape improvements. And then there's an IDOT project. On the July 31 letting for Illinois 113 from Court Street up to Indian Meadows Drive. I think it is at the north end of Indian Meadows for a resurfacing project. And you've all probably seen the work beginning on Kennedy Drive starting at Court Street and heading north to Aroma Road, sounds like they're going to start at the south end of that project and work their way north. Thank you

STEVE BERTRAND:

Thank you Mayor, the Library opened for regular service starting today. Unfortunately, we had the same problem that Elizabeth had and we lost power. So, our opening day was interrupted a little early but tomorrow we'll be back at it. We are requiring masks for everybody, everybody who comes in, and we are enforcing that and I'm proud to say that everybody who came in today had their mask and we got no, we got no complaints from anybody so I was really proud of our community. We have walk in service only which means we're not putting out any seating, so that people don't come and stay, but again the public we're happy just to be back in the library. So, I hope everybody comes out and sees us. Thank you.

CHIEF KOSMAN:

Thank you Mayor, members of the council. I just wanted to give you an update on the Fourth of July weekend was relatively quiet for us. We did have one shots fired call at the Legion Park where apparently someone's firing recklessly into the river at that location. We were overwhelmed with the fireworks like it's been discussed that we had 85 calls for fireworks over the weekend, and we didn't have any fires or injuries that are known. We did have some damage some siding and some houses that were damaged. In regards to the July 4 festivities, it went off well with no incidents related to police. We did use flex officers hours and have new officers that were working but we still had some overtime, which would be about 2000 hours worked overtime. I don't have a final number on it but I'm processing that overtime for that. We are testing body cams right now with one vendor doing our due diligence so we're checking those out. We're headed for a month we'll probably have another one, at least one more maybe another vendor also so we get a good feel for the product that's out there, and which one fits our needs the best, and hopefully that'd be something on the bond issue when it comes up. Tomorrow, like Alderman Brown talked about, is our Public Safety meeting. We'll be talking about our Shot Spotter program that the proposal that's come out. We'll be looking for approval from the committee pending legal review of the proposal, and then we'll also have our both our candidacy list, and our promotion list expiring January so we're going to be ramping up our testing procedure. We're going to go over what they are now so we'll have a discussion in reference to what the rules are right now by the Board of Police and Fire Commissioners,

and if there's any recommendations or any input into any possible changes for that. Also, were an ongoing looking at our policies, that's what we have Lexipol. So that's a system that the lawyers look through it and give recommendations all the time and then we review it on a regular basis to and adopt the law, most of the recommendations. So, our policies are up to date to national standards for the most part, but we will be comparing them when our 8 Can't Wait proposals and seeing where we fit in there. I know there's five of them that we are covered by exactly but the other ones are up to interpretation. So, we will get some more clarification on there. I think that's all that I have. Thank you.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Thank you, Chief, did I get every department head? Jasmyne?

JASMYNE HUMBLE:

Thank you. Can everyone hear me as I keep my mask on? Okay, good. I don't want to take it off. Okay. I wanted to address the statement from Alderman Curtis at our last city council meeting because I said that I will follow up. That was on Monday June 15th because I said I would follow up and I'm following up. So, Alderman Curtis read a public comment that was submitted by Natalie Ojeda on June 1st. You said that she submitted her public comments shortly that day after 3:00 P.M. I wanted to follow up with you tonight and say that we have no records and our email logs from our IT team that showed that public comment that was submitted by Natalie Ojeda was never submitted through the public comment email address that was listed or posted. Therefore, it was never received on our end. I am also not the only recipient that receives public comments when those are being submitted. There are three other people where those comments are redirected to so none of us received that public comment that you read at City Council that night. I feel that the integrity of our staff was in question when you stated that we ignored public comments and I just want to remind everyone here tonight that we are a team. Again, none of us ever received that public comment. I then took it upon myself because I have a good relationship with Natalie Ojeda to follow up with her the next day. I asked her where that was submitted and she recently gave me her public comment that I have in my hand tonight. I want to state that we had a follow up meeting in person that week with Natalie and the Hispanic

partnership team and response to the public comment that was addressing any questions or concerns, excuse me. The comment that you read Alderman Curtis excuse me, was not the original public comment that Natalie Ojeda had submitted. Natalie told me that she could not be here tonight so I want to take it upon myself to read that original comment I did inform her that I would read it. This was from Natalie Ojeda. As a leader in the Hispanic community, I am deeply concerned by your decision to eliminate a leadership position in the police department, just as two members of the Hispanic community were in line to be promoted. The lack of leadership positions for both Hispanic and female officers is indicative of your failure to be inclusive and equitable. We are 20% of your residents in diversity demands that we be given the opportunity for positions of leadership, and not repeatedly excluded. That was Natalie's original comment. Again, the comment that was read that night by Alderman Curtis was not the original comment that was submitted. She never addressed Mayor's African American Civic Leader Scholarship or Kankakee United those comments were added by who we are still trying to figure out tonight. I would like to include that the narrative was put out that the public last month, meaning a city council is absolutely false. We have a great relationship with Natalie I know, Natalie and I we have both supported each other's events. Natalie even apologize to us during our follow up meeting. Next time we just ask that the IT team...would appreciate the courtesy of reaching out to one of us prior to waiting two weeks later to reading her comment publicly, so that we could address the situation and resolve this miscommunication sooner. It is important to note that we need to continue to strengthen our partnerships especially within our community and our relationships and work together. Thank you.

MAYOR'S UPDATES

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Okay, moving on Item 18 Mayor's update.

ALD CURTIS: Mayor, may I comment?

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: No, it's the Mayors updates.

ALD CURTIS: Point of privilege...

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: It's Mayor's update...

ALD CURTIS: Point of privilege.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: My updates that I sent out on Friday...

ALD CURTIS: Mayor, point of privilege.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Alderman Curtis please stop disrupting the meeting.

ALD CURTIS: (inaudible)

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: You do not have the floor.

ALD CURTIS: Mayor I have point of privilege. I have a (inaudible) to respond...

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: You do not have the floor.

ALD CURTIS: (inaudible)

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Item one on my updates...I just wanted to let you all know We are still under a state of emergency. We have moved Into phase 4 the Restore Illinois plan. And I just want to remind everyone that we still have capacity limits to not exceed 50 people. So, I want to thank everyone tonight everybody's done a really good job of keeping their mask on. But we still do have COVID-19 in our community, even though, you know the weather's been nice and people are starting to gather, I just want to encourage everyone and our business owners to please follow the guidelines. I don't want to have to take stricter measures in terms of us being open. I did go to Family Dollar last week about half the people that came in the store had on the mask, half of the people didn't. They did have a sign on the door to have mass and also please left cooperate and work together and keep moving forward. As we restore our economy. The city offices as you all know, have been open to the public. And we are asking visitors to please wear their mask as well when they come in we are doing everything we can to keep our employees safe, and our public safe. As you all know city council committees. Again, I'm asking them to be held in the chamber so that they can be broadcast through the Box Cast. I believe we had an issue with the camera today we had some technology issues with power going out, which is why we have this setup tonight. But this will allow

everyone to be able to access. Vehicle stickers Elizabeth touched on, I just wanted to remind everyone we do not take checks for vehicle stickers. We do take debit cards, credit cards, no American Express. Or you can pay with cash, the fee is \$35. There is a lot of signups you guys probably saw we have huge signs or at the administration building also over at the corner of... Station. I just want to thank the IT team and all the departments our police officers especially who stood out today and Elizabeth department, there's a lot of work that went into this to move this operation. We've had to be flexible and problem solvers and I just appreciate everyone being patient. I have seen some feedback on extended hours, Elizabeth and I are in discussion about that. I want to keep in mind that in the past administrations extended hours have been held, usually on a weeknight I believe a Thursday night and a Saturday. We don't want to interfere with the farmers market that's going on Saturday either so we're working out what that will look like. But we will have some extended hours and we'll provide that to the community. Policing I have contacted Dr. Willie Davis is here from the police and fire commission he chairs that in addition to Alderman Brown who chairs our public safety committee to look at our policies as Chief Kosman mentioned under the 8 Can't wait, we are in compliance some of those things in our department we already adhere to. No chokehold, no shooting at moving vehicles. We already have those things in our policies that are covered. There are three that we are questioning, and we are just looking at to see, do we need to make some adjustments in our policy so I want to thank you all Alderman Brown and all them. Excuse me. Dr. Davis, for taking the lead and YouTube I know we'll be in communication with one another follow up with me regarding our strategies. I would be remiss if I didn't say congratulations to Sergeant John Raimondo, who's standing in the back, and has served 30 years on our Kankakee City Police Department effective today. I want to thank you for your service, personally, it's been a pleasure to work with you. You've always been very professional and kind and compassionate towards the community in any interactions that I have witnessed. And I just want to thank you. We are fortunate we do have some wonderful police officers in the city. We are fortunate that we have not had an issue like George Floyd, but as Alderman Brown stated, I am being proactive and making sure that we are addressing the issues that lead to this type of brutality in communities, I do not

want that to happen here in our city. So again, thank you for being an exemplary officer. The last thing I have I'm going to address the June 15th meeting city council meeting, and there were some comments made tonight in a public comment this narrative about not including people, I would have you all note that prior to this administration. You could not even see a city council meeting on the internet our website was so outdated. It was not functional, you could not watch it on Channel Four Comcast because the administration did not broadcast. And you, we didn't have a YouTube channel so to try to create a narrative that we don't include people is ridiculous. Alderman O'Brien, your comment about the Open Meetings Act violation, I was my understanding that there was still some investigation being done. That's why I hadn't told mentioned it yet. I believe that Lauren was waiting on a set a minutes from Budget Committee, and so that's why I don't have all the information to forward everything to you yet, but I will say that the Attorney General's Office did support our decision not to give out login credentials to the public which our IT team told us not to do. And so we followed that process and did not give out login credentials to the public, because again the public can view City Council on the internet to through the city's website, through YouTube, and also on Channel Four if they have Comcast. This has never been an issue about transparency prior to this administration. No one is coming here complaining that they didn't have access. Now that we have access we have all kinds of issues so I just want to make it clear that that is a false narrative. Moving on public comments, public comment on that Jasmyne referred to from Natalie Ojeda was submitted to the designated email and Alderman Curtis stated that and when he made the comment that she didn't submit it timely. She did not submit it to Publiccomment@citykankakee-il.gov which was where we notified the public to submit comments. That notification goes out on our social media sites and our web page. To imply that staff is not that the staff is not reading comments. The staff felt attacked personally and I take great offense to that. The staff have been working very hard, especially in this pandemic and the last thing we need to be doing is attacking now. So, you were out of order Alderman Curtis on several occasions first of all city council members do not read public comments from the public. Our process is that you come to city council you sign up on the clipboard just like the three people here

tonight, and they go through.... During COVID when we were doing zoom, they were to submit their comments by 3:00P.M. the same day of the meeting. Never have city council members read the comments of the public. You stated that there was a complete failure in handling the city's finances... Natalie, who is the President of the Hispanic Partnership took issue with African American Civic Leaders Scholarship and Kankakee United Initiatives which is to address gun violence, which is impacting 80% of our African American males under the age of 25. We met with Natalie and several members of the executive board of the Hispanic Partnership on Wednesday July 1st. Jasmyne had emailed her the next day, following the reading of that alleged comment on June 15th. So Jasmyne emailed her June 16th did not get a response so we met with her and several of her executive members of the board. On July, 1. We showed them the clip of the zoom meeting where Alderman Curtis made these accusations. She reported that the comment she attempt to submit did not reference the African American Civic Leaders Scholarship or Kankakee United. She stated that she's been supportive of both of those initiatives, understanding that black and brown communities face similar barriers. As I stated, the Hispanics Partnership raises scholarship funds for Hispanic students every year, they only give scholarships to Hispanic students. And I've supported that scholarship personally so she said that she would never have made a comment like that...she has attended our events, she was at the meeting in January. She attended our viewing of Selma on civil rights and protesting. She is very supportive of that initiative as well. So, I just want to be clear that we are working with the Hispanic Partnership, the city has always had a relationship with the partnership. Prior to this administration and certainly during this administration, we support our black and brown sisters in the community. Regarding police personnel, we discussed that it was a financial decision that in no way is to try to hinder anyone, and me being a person of color and a woman, I take very seriously opportunities, this is the path that I've walked in my own personal life. I know the barriers that women face, and people of color face in terms of trying to promote and secure opportunities. So, I just want to be clear that up. We affirm that we are going to work together and that, that is a false narrative that the Hispanic Partnership and the city are not working together. Also, it was brought up, that our police department doesn't

reflect our community which is about 40% Caucasian 40% African American 20% Hispanic, our work for us in the city of Kankakee has never reflected that demographic. And while we are not there, it is certainly a priority to make sure that we give opportunities to people of color and to women as those positions become available. In terms of the city's finances, this body has been fully informed of the city's finances, we had Burt Odelson here in a meeting, who discussed in detail the audit and our former Corporation Counsels efforts to interfere with our current audits. Alderman Curtis was on that call, raised no concerns but chose to then come on a meeting July 15th and make negative permits regarding the city and the staff. So, what I'm going to say also, Chapter 2 of our Municipal Ordinance Section 5.1 says the members of city council shall treat all city staff as professionals. Excuse me Chapter 2 Section 5.1-1 says the city council member shall engage in honest conversation, which did not occur on June 15th, because comments were made against a Hispanic leader in this community, indicating that she takes issue with the African American Civic Leaders Scholarship and Kankakee United Initiative. She did not make those comments so that was a lack of integrity that was the dishonesty. City council members shall engage in honest conversation and communication and exhibits respect for the abilities experience and dignity of each individual inappropriate or disrespectful behavior to our staff is not acceptable. And then the next ordinance that was violated was Chapter 2 Section 5.2 - 4 members of city council shall not express concerns about the performance of a city employee in public, to the employee directly comments about staff performance should only be made to the Mayor, the private correspondence or conversation, comments about staff in the office of the corporation council shall be made directly in the corporation council. So again, we are living in a pandemic right now. The staff come here and work hard every single day, they are not elected to public office, they are not partisan. They are here to serve, and to make sure that they meet the needs of our residents and they've done a great job of that. I know that many of you drive by the administration building since he Elizabeth was personally attack. She is one of the last people leave Elizabeth, myself and Jasmyne are the last people to leave the office every single day. We have had deaths on staff. We have had parents now having to try to figure out how to school their children. We have people that are taking care of their

parents. All of this doing COVID-19. And when this started. I said that this was going to be challenging because none of us have ever done this before. We're going to make mistakes, there's going to be sometimes we don't get things right. It is not malicious. We made a mistake, the Attorney General made a recommendation, say that, put on your agenda, where you can view the meetings that's why there's a correction there. If there's something that's that we're not doing appropriately is brought to our attention we corrected, but it's not done maliciously. And right now, we need to be working together, and we need to give each other some grace. So, I did not appreciate staff's integrity being questioned, or people's performances being attacked in a meeting, it was unprofessional. It was inappropriate and it was rude. It was hurtful to some people. The last thing that I'm going to say moving forward. I'm going to ask that we show respect for the people that work here every day, show respect to the staff. They work hard. If this continues, you will be called out of order. I feel like you owe Alderman Curtis, Elizabeth, in this city and apology for what you did and you owe, Natalie Ojeda an apology as a Hispanic leader to try to pit the black and brown communities against one another. I know there are many agendas in our community right now, people have agendas going on, but our residents are counting on us to provide service, and to have solutions to our issues. So, with that being said, the only agenda that we follow in this chamber is going to be the one that is disseminated 48 hours in advance, according to the open meetings that no political agenda has no personal agendas, in this chamber. We are here to take care of the business of the city. Thank you. May I have a motion to adjourn?

ADJOURNMENT

ALD PRUDE: So move your Mayor.

ALD LEWIS: Second.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Motioned by Alderman Prude Seconded by Alderwoman Lewis. All in favor aye?

COUNCIL: Aye.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Opposed same sign. We are adjourned.